BULLETIN from

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service & 38 Bank Street

Vol. XX July 15, 1952 No. 14

JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

Krauss, Ruth — Harper

A HOLE IS TO DIG — $1.50

When a book of imaginative nature such as this comes along, we get all excited, expect it to be top flight. Though the definitions in this "First Book of Definitions" may bring a few squeals of delight from the young mind making its first associations between the things he knows and what they make him think about- they are not up to the level of warmth and humor of Ruth Krauss' other work. Attractively laid out, each small page has on it one or two phrases- each accompanied by the miniscule drawings of Maurice Sendak reminiscent of the old British picture books. The funniest definition: "Hunh! Rugs are so dogs have napkins". An ordinary definition, and there are a lot like this one: "A mountain is to go to the top". One that calls for a mental leap: "A prinicpal is to take out splinters". A just plain silly one: "Little stones are for little children to gather up and put in little piles". Lastly, some imaginative ones, and these will set kids smiling and perhaps thinking up a whole lot of their own: "A castle is to build in the sand", "A hat is to wear on the train", "Eyebrows are to go over your eyes", "Buttons are to keep people warm". They are cute and they are thought provoking. What they should be is more thought provoking. (9/3)

Brown, Margaret Wise — Young Scott

THE LITTLE FIREMAN — $1.75

A new edition with new pictures by Esphry Slobodkina in a green and red cut-out and patch-work technique that turns this into a companion piece for *The Little Farmer* and *The Little Cowboy*. Our opinion of Margaret Wise Brown's *Big and Little* series started on the downgrade with the cowboy book where a monotony of the big versus little themes and some rather stiff, faceless figures detracted from warmth and reality. Here there is a nice ending when the little fireman has a dream of putting out a big fire while the big fireman dreams the reverse, but the parallel road towards climax is contrived and illogical, so we still don't endorse whole-heartedly. The gay colors and different textures in the pictures will appeal. Board. Firm stitching. (9/8)

Johnson, Crockett — Young Scott

WHO'S UPSIDE DOWN? — $1.75

A nice concept builder for those first wonderings. A kangaroo and her young 'un, hopping around down in Australia, think everything's all right with the world. Of a sudden mama kangaroo finds a book of maps with a picture showing two children on a northern continent standing rightside up, and herself upside down. She is worried for a few flip-flops of upside down pictures in the book, then picks up the map again the wrong way, and finds herself right side up. Happily she hops off with her baby, only a little sad at the thought that the two children are now upside down. The pull of gravity is explained in a big, middle-of-the-book diagram. Nice, soft drawings by the author are worldly big. Board. (9/8)

Palazzo, Tony — Viking

THE GREAT OTHELLO — $2.00

Othello is a seal who readily establishes himself as a worthy and amusing member of Tony Palazzo's growing gang of remarkable animals. Circus bound Othello, after a glorious career of globe tossing, hoop hopping and horn honking, finds he is slightly

unhappy with his own mirrored reflection as sole companion, however grandly attired in shako and cape. Happily, a television broadcast briefs seals up on Sealskin Island as to Othello's whereabouts. They ask him to pay a visit and then to stay and live, which he does. The author's sentences have the swish of seal-like movements, his illustrations a nosey, flippery roundness. Nice. Cloth. (9/?)

Little Wonder Books — Wonder Books, Inc.
Published — Board-each 25¢

Fraydas, Stan- HOPPY, THE CURIOUS KANGAROO- Bored with zoo life, baby Hoppy finds his cage door ajar one day and goes to explore the city. Traffic, neon signs, a statue in the park, a tangle with the fire department's clothesline become part of his experience before he decides zoo and mother are safer and returns. There are funny, colorful pictures by the author of Hoppy's leaps and lurches. Perishable.

Simon, Patty and Bobby- JUST LIKE MOMMY, JUST LIKE DADDY- Classified by the publishers as *A Two-in-One Wonder Book*, after reading the first half of this, you turn it upside down and begin at the back end for another story. And there's recognizable corn, but a possible help to parents, as the little girl does everything "just like Mommy," getting up, going shopping, washing hair, eating, and the little boy does everything just like Daddy- fishing, toothbrushing, eating everything on his plate at lunchtime, hanging up clothes. Pictures, by Alison Cummings and Eleanor Dart respectively show pretty, well built parents and kids that are a shade cuter than the average "copy-cat".

BOOKS TO READ ALOUD

Averill, Esther — Harper
JENNY'S ADOPTED BROTHERS — $1.50 ✓

* Dry humor and not a little bit of wonderful pathos abound in the sixth book about Captain Tinker's cat Jenny Linsky- that may even tickle the adults who read it aloud more than their listening children. Black Jenny, sporting her tasseled red wool scarf while sitting in the rose garden one day, meets a cat she's never seen before. After introductions, Checkers the stranger, produces his friend Edward a tiger, without whom he will not consider Jenny's offer of adoption into the Captain's household. Jenny gets them both adopted. But just when things are going well- the new cats have been given presents and the complete run of the house- Jenny, in a fit of jealousy at seeing Checkers and Edward atop the captain's knee, acts unpleasantly. A hurt Checkers and Edward leave the house but a changed and forgiving Jenny finds them on a rainy night in a public doorway and invites them back again. This, to delight one's sense of propriety- and a certain stiffness in the author's humorous drawings conveys cat movement to exactitude. (8/6)

Symonds, John — Lippincott
THE MAGIC CURRANT BUN — $2.00

Very French fantasy about a dream-like wild goose chase through Paris. Young Pierre, standing in front of a *boulangerie-patisserie* suddenly hears a currant bun ask for help- so he decides to rescue it. At a fat lady's cry of "Thief!", rapscallion Pierre darts off. Twenty-seven and a half policemen (the half-gendarme is a midget) hound him through the Eiffel Tower, Napoleon's Tomb, the Bastille, the Opera- but the little bun always comes through with helpful hints and granted wishes. Pierre is officially freed when he makes the half policeman nine feet tall. *Very* Bemelmanesque drawings by Andre Francois show the Paris cross section in a vein of grotesques and amiable horrors, but the author's style is too pat to put this in the realm of the classics. Board with cloth and reinforcement. (9/10)

Johnson, Siddie Joe — Longmans, Green
A MONTH OF CHRISTMASES — $2.50

A German settlement in Fredericksburg, Texas, backgrounds this gay book of the Yule season. Milla, nine, and John, seven, are sent south to visit relatives for an extra long vacation when their mother and father decide to change their city house for one in the suburbs. Their Texas *kinder*, Aunt Katrin and Uncle Karl, show them a rollicking time. Milla and John are told of the first of the small group of settlers who were charcoal burners and who fought the Comanches; they are fed Aunt Katrin's delicious pastries, not to mention some Mexican enchiladas; they go to the Lutheran church and to Christmas parties; they frolic with the kitten Smudge. Time to go sees the kids well versed if breathtakingly so, in German-Spanish-American custom, but often their observers can't see the event for the surrounding flurry. Illustrated by Henrietta J. Moon. (9/17)

Waldman, Dorothy — Pellegrini & Cudahy
GOOMER — $1.75

A cat book on the sentimental and uninspiring side, this is an example of what can happen when a new owner of a Siamese kitten gets completely silly over the remarkable things the little dear can do and decides to write it all down. There's an air of awe and praise as Goomer, "The Goom", goes to sleep in the kleenex box, falls off the kitchen table, tries to retrieve a piece of paper from the piano without stepping on the keys and making any noise, and, when she grows up, fights, conquers and makes friends with a tough old Tabby, Jessie. Marie C. Nichols' pencil drawings are sugared accuracies of darling Goomer but otherwise quite, quite static. Cloth. (7/28)

Bowen, Vernon — Roy
THE WONDERFUL ADVENTURES OF TING LING — $2.00

Happily-ever-afterwards adventures tell about a juggler's assistant who married a princess in olden day China. Ting Ling had led a hard life but the abuses wreaked upon him by a driving master made him a clever lad, able to do all sorts of things. One day Princess Dar Ling, jealously guarded daughter of the fat, cruel emperor Wo Ti, happened to be passing through a town at the very monent when Ting Ling was on a tightrope wire between two roof tops. He falls into her palanquin, passes five tests requiring remarkable bravery and wit, the last one of which shocks Wo Ti to death, and marries Dar Ling for a long and happy rule over China. Very pleasant. Kurt Wiese's drawings show a lithe Ting Ling, astonished Chinese, and a lovely princess. Cloth (8/22)

Schneider, Herman & Nina — Young Scott
cloth- $2.75
YOU AMONG THE STARS — board- $2.25

First printed last year, this is a new edition in both board and cloth bound covers. (9/8)

Selsam, Millicent — Young Scott
ALL ABOUT EGGS — $2.00

The problem of how to tell a small child about birth is paramount in the minds of parents when a new baby is imminent. Here is a book that may help, though it still leaves much to be desired. The author of *Play with Plants*, etc. (and a new one in this issue, *Play with Leaves and Flowers* - all Morrow) handles the subject with a commendable forthrightness. She takes the familiar eggs of chickens and birds, goes on from that to various ways in which eggs hatch out into fish, turtles, lobsters, ostriches. And then, in natural sequence, she goes on to those creatures that carry the eggs inside the mothers' bodies,- dogs, cows, whales - and humans. The text is excellent- with dignity and simplicity. The pictures by Helen Ludwig, line with occasional doublespreads in color wash, are informative, possibly too bluntly so for those who can take the facts of birth in text, but not in pictures. Cloth. (9/8)

Dalgliesh, Alice — Scribner
THE BEARS OF HEMLOCK MOUNTAIN — $2.00

Legend in the making in the form of a sort of regional folk tale with the kind of rhythm and repeat construction small children love. Jonathan was eight, pretty small to be sent over Hemock Mountain to borrow a big iron pot from his aunt on the other side. But he found he had friends in the squirrels and the birds and the rabbits, and all would have been well if he hadn't eaten too many of his aunt's cookies and drunk too much milk and slept too long so that it was dark when he started back with the big iron pot. What he discovered about the bears of Hemlock Mountain makes the climax of a story that is good read aloud material, and that second graders will be able to read to themselves. Helen Sewell's line drawings in black and blue make decorative borders. Her humans are pretty much stock figures but she has a nice feel for the Pennsylvania German decorative art quality. (7/21)

Smith, Irene — Whittlesey House ✓
HUBBUB IN THE HOLLOW — $2.00

Rather slow and homey are the country experiences of a young married couple from New York, Alice and Albert, who decide to buy an old house out of town. Vociferous objections of the animals on the newly acquired property- it is they who create the hubbub- changes to approval after Alice and Albert tie a warning bell around the neck of a marauding cat. While there are lots of animals pictured in the leafy, weedy or watery vantage points from which they watch the two "city greenhorns", neither the angry chipmunk nor the irked rabbit are depicted humorously enough to make a captivating relief, for children, against adult Alice and adult Albert's desires to get away from the city's noises. True, healthy, country-loving young couples are recognizable at an early age, but it takes more than a book about these alone really to entertain at the read-aloud level. Tony Palazzo's drawings have a briskness about them that nicely characterizes the east coast field and stream, the vigor of the gardening, house repairing couple. (8/12) ✓

EASY READING

Lattimore, Eleanor Frances — Morrow
LIVELY VICTORIA — $2.00 ✓

The just outside Miami doings of young Victoria told simply and true to form by a writer who knows how children feel about daily living. Victoria's forays across the yard, around the block, over to the banyan tree, next door to the Carters to see their lovebird, Mr. Blue, are important things in life. Crises come when she rides down to Miami on the bus by mistake, has to obey an overly demanding Aunt Cora, or loses sight of her mother and baby brother Randolph while shopping in the A & P and drops her precious cans of catfood in the excitement. Small Randolph functions as a lever for increasing Victoria's round of responsibilities and when he learns to walk his sister is told to amuse him periodically. In all a sunny book, bright as a Florida orange. The author's pictures capture little girl spirit of the sunsuit set. Cloth. (9/24) ✓

Whitehead, Roberta — Houghton, Mifflin
WISH I MAY — $2.00

In a sequel to the little girl adventures of *Why Not?* young Sarah Jane Brown from Virginia pays a return visit to her New Yorker friend Julia and the result is a summer in Maine. After an ominous beginning (the girls fear they won't be able to get together at all) pig-tailed Sarah and poodle-bobbed Julia have an exciting pullman trip north, acquire a kitten, picnic, learn to swim, collect shells and starfish. And there's that nice end-of-a-perfect-day feeling at the end of the book. William Moyer's pencil drawings are appealingly well rounded. Cloth. (9/10)

Barr, Jene — Whitman
FIREMAN FRED — $1.00

Serious ABC's about city fireman and their doings provide some solid facts at the easy reading level. The pictured narrative, rather deadpan in tone, takes brave, strong Fred and his unruffled firehouse pals through an expert extinguishing and rescue, back home for relaxation- sleep, a meal, television, before they are off again on another speedy trip through town. Chauncy Maltman's red engines and blue shirted property protectors are photographically drawn. (Publ.)

Smith, Eunice Young — Whitman
DENNY'S STORY — $1.50

A "what are you going to be when you grow up?" story to start small American competitive spirits rolling. In school, seven year old Denny and the rest of his classmates are asked to write stories about whatever they please. Denny writes one about his big brother Bill who is going to become a famous engineer. The teacher commends him for the story, suggests he write on about his own future. But not until six stories and five brothers and sisters later does Denny decide what he'll be- a writer who writes about famous people and "animals and inventions", and who'll be rich and famous at the age of 97. The author's pictures are in bold color and line and lend an air of innocent forthrightness to Denny's careful searchings. Harmless in spite of the emphasis on goals of money and recognition. (Publ.)

EIGHT TO ELEVEN- FICTION

Lansing, Elisabeth Hubbard — Crowell
THE PONY THAT KEPT A SECRET — $2.00 ✓

In a sequel to *The Pony That Ran Away* the twins Ted and Sue, baby brother Robby, Pete the hired man, the pony Twinkle spend another humorously adventuresome summer on and farm. There's a mystery to be solved: young Robby decides the duck Jemima needs some "yeggs" to sit on the innocently takes Pete's cowbell, Ted's quartz and Sue's diamond door knob for the purpose. There are prizes to win: Sue beats Ted in a floating contest in their homemade swimming pool and wins a box of paints; Robby engineers a triumph in a county fair pony-riding contest with Twinkle that results in the acquisition of a western saddle. Lots of enthusiasm and swift executions of brilliant ideas make this excellent reading for summer reminiscences. Illustrated by Barbara Cooney. (9/~~7~~)19

Lampman, Evelyn Sibley — Doubleday
CAPTAIN APPLE'S GHOST — $2.50

A friendly ghost story, with an original sort of setting and plot. A Pacific Northwest sea coast town and an old mansion housing a Junior Natural Science Museum providing background for the story of how the children of the community meet the threat of losing the old house to the city. The curators of the Museum are a young couple in love, and hoping to marry; the Museum and grounds provide summer play space for the town's underprivileged children, and the ghost of Captain Apple finds the old home a place of good memories. Together they maintain the Museum while the kindly ghost uses his supernatural powers to sway the mayor and city council. Humorous scenes between the people the Captain "bothers" and the ghost himself- always unseen - something of the regional background and the Indian lore of the coast combine to make this pleasant reading for third and fourth graders, and not too juvenile for the next step up. Evelyn Sibley Lampman has proved again the gift for warm-hearted story telling evidenced in her earlier books, (*Elder Brother*-1951; *Bounces of Cynthiann*-1950 etc.) Illustrated by Ninon MacNight. (9/4)

Warner, Priscilla M. — Doubleday
PICTURE COME TRUE — $2.50

Refreshing English writing about a village bookshop-owning family- the Maitlands, their financial troubles, and their artistic eleven-year-old daughter Bridget. In love with her world of small town, happy family and literary people, Bridget suddenly

finds it disrupted by her father's need to sell a failing business. Her problems- being temporarily considered "too young to understand" by worried parents and her older twin brother and sister, the family's loss of a wonderful opportunity to buy an old house near the Welsh border, having to see her parents go off for a more lucrative year of teaching at a New Zealand University- are worked out during her stay with Aunt Jess in a nearby town and friendships with a very compatible Catherine, whose father has bought the Maitland bookstore, and Uncle Andrew, also an artist, who has come to stay with Aunt Jess while finishing a book on German mountains. A surprise ending gets the Maitlands together again and rewards them their Welsh house. The dialogue's marked English accents will make the appeal of this depend on how British one's tastes are but don't let the anglicisms ward off a good growing-up story. Compact, solidly built illustrations by the author. (8/21)

Sawyer, Ruth — Harper

MAGGIE ROSE — $2.00

* Maggie Rose is almost too good to be true, but Ruth Sawyer's unfailing magic makes her real, and brings smiles and tears to her readers. For Maggie Rose was only nine, but she alone in a big happy lazy family- "those Bunkers"- lifted a finger to make their home anything but a rundown shack near a seaside resort in Maine. Maggie Rose was tired of peeking through windows at other people's Christmases, especially since she was a Christmas Eve present herself. So one summer she got a grand idea - she had six blessed months to plan and earn and save for a bang-up party, the Bunkers as hosts, and all the village neighbors as guests. There'd be wild strawberries and raspberries, blueberries and blackberries, and the summer people would buy them. It was a busy Summer for Maggie Rose, and she had little help from her family, though they all thought she was wonderful. But when spending time came- and tragedy fell- even the Bunkers found a way to make her dream come true. There's the feel of Maine and Maine people in the telling- the author (who lives in Maine now) has a gift for absorbing local idiom, for telling a story out of the hearts of her characters. September publication of a Christmas tale. (9/17)

Gag, Flavia — Henry Holt

FOUR LEGS AND A TAIL — $2.50

* Sing Wing, a broadtailed sheep, becomes Queen of the Vances' summer farm in New Jersey after Mr. Vance, a foreign correspondent, brings her home from Australia as a surprise for his ten year old twins, Robin and Roberta. But it's not the angle alone that gives the story its utter charm. Four Vances make an animated, inquisitive family- one to complement Sing Wing's New Jersey residence to the best advantage. Robin and "Bert" are the garden digging, mushroom hunting, money earning variety of kids who yap at each other for messing up the beets and the next moment become deadly serious over the problem of Sing Wing's sleeping quarters. Their parents are people with that honest, unconscious interest in children and life that one wishes were more prevalent. Milestones in Sing Wing's summer are the acquisition of a cart for her heavy (approx. 40 lbs.) fat storing tail, the eating of a poisoned mushroom, a display of tricks for the twins' eleventh birthday, getting lost and being found by a carnival man who uses her in a sideshow. There is humor in the farm cavortings, a happy pathos when Robin and Roberta decide to leave beloved Sing Wing in the carnival where she will have more company, and when they visit her and two baggy tailed lambs the following summer. The author's black and white drawings are wonderfully rural and sheepy. Excellent reading matter for the whole family. (9/29)

Rosford, Dorothy — Henry Holt

THUNDER OF THE GODS — $2.50

Some of the Norse myths retold in simple folktale form. Beginning with a chapter on the physical set-up of the gods and their homes- Thor and Odin at Asgard, Frost Giants and Hill Giants in the next realm, dwarfs in the next, humans in yet another, the book continues with the myths themselves. Thor wins his hammer as the result of a gift

making contest between two dwarfs, Brock and Sindri; Odin brings Kvasir's mead to Asgard's halls and those who drink it become poets; the treacherous Loki kills wise Balder and precipitates a battle which ends the reign of the gods. Nice legendary material very like the text of Wechsler's *Gods and Goddesses in Art and Legend.* Ink drawings by Claire and George Louden are appropriately swirling representations of plumed and bearded heads, thundering chariots. (9/8)

Bishop, Claire Huchet — Viking
TWENTY AND TEN — $2.75 ~~.50~~

Twenty French children and ten Jewish refugee children people an ironical and breathtaking story laid in occupied France of 1944. The French children are harbored safely in a mountain school run by nuns. On a day when they are in the midst of a make-believe game of The Flight into Egypt, they are suddenly presented with the problem of caring for the ten escaping refugees. Later, hiding the Jewish children in a cave helps to thwart two searching Nazi soldiers, and in a climax charged with fear and humor, the youngest French boy who had played the part of Jesus in The Flight into Egypt game, points innocently to two companions who had been Joseph and Mary as the "Jews", when he is questioned by the Nazis, thus making them give up their search in disgust. A successful spotting of young peoples' reactions to war and danger. William Pene duBois has done excellent soft pencil drawings of thin, lively children and the French countryside. Cloth. (9/?) 5

Prishvin, M. — Viking
Translated by Tatiana Blakoff-Browne — $2.75
THE TREASURE TROVE OF THE SUN

Told from personal experience, this is an exceptional story of a day's adventures in the life of orphaned Ana and her brother Peterkin who live in a Russian peasant village. On an expedition to a cranberry bog, Peterkin wants to explore for a new picking moor which he thinks lies along a trail near dangerous Black Break Quagmire. Ana argues but lets him go. The boy, eventually trapped, is also eventually rescued by the hound Tress, who had belonged to the long dead woodsman Antip, and who mixes identities when she finds Peterkin. The side story of Tress and Antip, the countless observations of nature as the children walk through the swamp are woven into a lyrical pattern with a folktale quality that lends depth to the hunt. The "treasure trove" as stated by the author almost as an afterthought is the rich deposits of peat in the swamp. There are large, radiant pictures of trees and grasses and animals in luminous reds, and blues and browns by Feodor Rojankovsky. Cloth. (9/?) 5

EIGHT TO ELEVEN- NON-FICTION

Fenton, Carroll Lane — John Day
WILD FOLK IN THE WOODS — $2.50 ✓

Third in a series of books by the same author, the first of which, *Weejack in the Woods,* dealt with North American prairie animals, and the second, *Wild Folk at the Pond* is self explanatory in title. *Wild Folk in the Woods* is a smattering of information, personalized and narrative in style, about a few birds, beasts and insects the continent over- roughly sixteen different kinds of animals in all. The author's method is to take, for example, Mowitch, a blacktail buck as he walks somewhere along the Pacific Coast, describe his looks, habits, habitat, mate, young, yearly routine and some of his relations with other flora and fauna. The same is done with Chip Chipmunk, Fluff the screech owl, Samia the cecropia and so forth. A pleasant little book for the first surface scrapings of nature study, but the young will soon want to know about bears, elk, snakes and moose- here missing. Nicely detailed black and white drawings by the author show the animals in their environs and the personification does give a warm sense of animal-reader identity. Cloth. (8/21) ✓

Peare, Catherine — Henry Holt
STEPHEN FOSTER, HIS LIFE — $2.00

By the author of excellent biographies of Gandhi, Einstein, and Mary McCleod Bethune for young adults, this is a wise and warm handling of the composer's life, for readers below their teens. Full of such deeply contrasting moments of joy and grief as it was, Foster's life is touching biography material. Never a strong man as regards health or social convention, his artistic temperament plagued and benefited alike, caused his beloved wife to leave home because of the inability to keep a job, yet pleased family, friends and the public by tenderness and heartfelt melodies. Catherine Peare treats Stephen the dreamer, the listener, the homebody, and at the last, the Bowery outcast, sick in body and mind, with a nostalgic sympathy that recalls the gaiety of *The Camptown Races* and the longing as *My Old Kentucky Home*. We are within rather than spectators of a tragic yet fruitful life. Margaret Ayer's illustrations have a period softness about them. (9/8)

Selsam, Millicent — Morrow
PLAY WITH LEAVES AND FLOWERS — $2.00 ✓

* Adept botanist and gifted writer *(Play With Plants, Play With Trees)*, Millicent Selsam has done the latest book in her series on the theme of mature plant movement. There are five sections: leaves that move, plants that catch insects, flowers that move, seeds that move, other plants that do things. In each section there are the names and descriptions of several of the particular plants, with close attention paid to two or three by way of a clear play by play account of how it moves and suggestions for simple home experiments. Clover's leaf moving mechanisms are water losing and gaining cells at the base of each leaflet stalk; the sundew plant manufactures a sticky glue blob at the end of each of its hairs that traps insects or even a piece of hamburger, then digests through the secretion of another fluid. Clearly illustrated by Fred F. Scherer, this is excellent introductory material to a side aspect of a large scientific field. (9/24) ✓

Syme, Ronald — Morrow
COLUMBUS — $2.00 ✓

Another vigorously paced explorer biography by the author of *Cortes of Mexico* and *Champlain of the St. Lawrence*, this time for younger readers. In simplification, Mr. Syme loses no narrative force as he takes an eager, pressed Columbus through his dreams of a new world, his exhausting search for ships and royal approval, and his four voyages- fraught with the disheartening perils of mutiny and nearly disastrous mismanagement of the new colonies- that, goaded by Spanish avarice as well as the quest for knowledge, saw the lusty opening up of America. Imaginative use of extensive research will broaden the ten-year-old's horizons for speculation, ground him well in the succession of events. A tremendous pull and push of diagonals in William Stobbs' drawings almost overpoweringly conveys the urgency of the period. Cloth. (9/24) ✓

Webber, Irma E. — Young Scott
THANKS TO TREES — $2.00

* And thanks to another apt botanist-writer for another fine addition to the introductory science field. In seven sections, the theme of trees and their functions as producers and conservers is treated as to the definition of a tree, living trees, cut down trees, trees and water, trees and food, trees and trouble, and the specific connection between trees and the reader. Neat simple diagram drawings by Dr. Webber help show for instance the parts of a tree, what things rubber makes, the journey of a glass of water, how the water-retaining capacity of trees both speeds and slows ground intake. Good young science not to be missed. Cloth. (9/8)

Schneider, Herman and Nina — Whittlesey House
YOUR TELEPHONE AND HOW IT WORKS — $2.00 ✓

* Continuing to do themselves proud as science writers for young people, the

Schneiders make simple and fascinating the story of the telephone- the relatively uncomplicated principle on which it operates, its many uses and functions, its far reaching implications in the lives of all of us. After introductory material on humanity's need to talk and some solidly predigested facts about sound waves and vibration, the telephone itself is introduced and its operational circuit- electrical current from the carbon grains in the transmitter box to the central battery to the spools and disc of the receiver- explained in very understandable terminology. In the material on the two different systems- dial and operator, one reads with amazement of the ease and efficiency of the exchanges, sees at a glance the operations all along the line- from the insertion of a coin in a public booth or picking up the receiver at home, to the switchboard girl or the completed calls adding machine. A final chapter on telephones that travel, clears up mysteries about walkie talkies, police cars, phones in airplanes. Jeanne Bendick's drawings have a breezy informality that makes callers and operators look lively, are admirably spotted so as to give full clarity to the text.(9/10) ✓

TWELVE TO FIFTEEN- FICTION

Balch, Glenn — Crowell

THE MIDNIGHT COLT — $2.50 ✓

Continuations of Ben and Dixie Darby's adventures bud on a day at the races in Boise, flower into the kids' first real experiences with thoroughbreds and racing after Ben foolishly buys a troublesome racing stallion, Peck, at a bargain price of $300. A chance for the unpromising Peck comes when an Arizona racing man,Andy Blair, comes to the Darby's Tack Ranch just outside Boise, to buy a colt- a midnight colt- sired by the famous wild stallion Black King. The midnight colt gets sick and dies. Blair decides to gamble on Peck and Ben and Dixie have the opportunity to go with him to Arizona, calm Peck into a more ridable animal, race him, win him, and discover, through a mix-up in pedigrees that Peck too, is a midnight colt, and hence worth a lot of money. In order to get to the horsey stuff wherein lies the value of the book, the reader has to stomach such things as Ben's glib and unpunished money spending, the relatively easy thing it seems to be for children to go off racing horses around the country-side. But there's the market for westerns that waxes ever strong and unfailing. Illustrated by Pers Crowell. (8/~~8~~ 26)

Friermood, Elisabeth Hamilton — Doubleday

GENEVA SUMMER — $2.50

Romance and dreams of college sophomores, against the backdrop of the George Williams College Camp, where they are working their vacations as waitress, tent maid and busboy. Pris Patton is trying to get over a jilting by the boy friend back home; Janey Faris hails from the same town; Jud Westlake comes from Texas. They are all a bit too noble to ring true, but - that shortcoming aside- their preoccupations with the opposite sex, serious conferences with Y officials, problems of college and career all ring true for late teen agers the country over. Pris decides that a miserable Freshman year can be forgotten and a shift to Antioch, in Ohio, is in order and puts her romantic disillusionment behind her. Dependable and recognizable-at teen level.(9/4) ✓

Kjelgaard, Jim — Holiday House

TRAILING TROUBLE — $2.50

* An excellent dog and horse accented sequel to *A Nose for Trouble*, in which the young game warden Tom Rainse, his hound Smoky and his pinto Pete, are part and party to thrillingly maneuvered poacher trapping adventures. With his knack for chanelling nature lore and bush know-how into his narrative, Kjelgaard makes a good yarn when Tom and his friend Buck Brunt and a conservation-conscious retired lumberman, Mark Orsway, track a gang who, in search of low timber prices, are out to thwart a regional park project. A reliable on-the-trail story, filled with suspense and the kind of detecting that should give a ranger's manual a run for its money. (9/15)

Wellman, Manly Wade — Holiday House

WILD DOGS OF DROWNING CREEK — $2.50

* A mystery sequel to Randy Hunter's and Jeb Markums' pot-of-gold adventures in *The Haunts of Drowning Creek* (1951-p. 398) that plays successfully on suspense, human affliction and the strange affinity between man and beast. When Jeb and Randy pay a visit to their friend Driscoll, now established in Chimney Pot House, they learn that the surrounding country is terrorized by a pack of wild dogs. A series of exploits get them involved in some harrowing situations with the dogs, gets them acquainted with a blind man, Hobart Tasman, who lives alone downstream and makes pottery for a living. Tasman's and the dogs' mysteries are solved in a climactic fight which reveals the blindman who befriended the dogs as his only companions when loss of sight prevented his becoming a naturalist, as a basically decent person, and the dogs as smart animals who killed for food alone. Cataracts, not yet fully formed, enabled Tasman to see in the dark, and an operation can restore him his sight. All ends well. Throughout, the boys go about their detecting in a way that is natural and sensible and that makes this healthy reading. J.L.G. September. (9/15)

Molloy, Anne — Houghton, Mifflin

WHERE AWAY? — $3.50

A splendidly paced sea adventure, profusely illustrated, about a girl, Patience Little, and a boy, Cleon Cottle, who stowaway on a sailing ship and voyage all the way from Maine, around Cape Horn to San Francisco- in 1888. Patience, determined to find her parents who had sailed away on the *Pandora* a year ago, thinks of hiding aboard the Havana bound *Lightning*, inspires her friend Cleon- further instigated by his own unhappy home life- to come too, and together the two have a fabulous voyage south. Once around the Horn tragedy and good fortune strike together. Cleon is badly burned in a fire and lost at sea when their ship goes down. But the *Pandora* on her way to San Francisco, is overtaken in the nick of time and Patience and the Littles are reunited. Many adventures, friendships with the crew, first breathtaking views of the Caribbean, the stopover in Havana, make this a book of more than the simplest proportions and Joshua Tolford's brown wash illustrations picture the sea and its sailors marvellously. An attractive gift book. (9/10)

Dietz, Lew — Little, Brown

JEFF WHITE, YOUNG LUMBERJACK — $2.75

A two-man killer team and a disputed tract of land along the border between Maine and Canada make for some too sheer melodrama in stalwart young Jeff's latest achievements in woodsmanship. In spring Jeff starts work in a lumber camp run by August Baltman, a frosty-eyed cripple. Baltman's camp is in Big Ten, a troublesome section because of the uncapturable marauders who sneak across the border to pillage. Baltman, himself a victim of a partially unjust trial in 1917- not for pillaging but for having pro-German sympathies- is furious at the thought of possible inroads being made on his territory by another company, starts terrorizing the countryside by killing off all the people connected with the old trial. He kills perched atop the shoulders of a hefty lumberjack accomplice. Finally Jeff gets a clue, prevents the seventh murder on Baltman's list. Lots of horror in Baltman's two-headed burlap disguise, lots of lumberjacking in the log drive down Bog Stream. (9/29)

Shore, Maxine — Longmans, Green

THE CAPTIVE PRINCESS — $3.00

Roman invasion of Britain in the time of the Emperor Claudius and the subsequent life in Rome and Christianization of the Celtic King Caradoc and his family, substance a junior saga rather too melodramatically written out of enough stature to hit near the bullseye of the younger market. Its protagonist is Caradoc's stepdaughter Gladys Ruffyd. Her life is recounted from the time she is nine to the time she is thirty,

from the time she befriends a stranger to the British Court, Illid the Israelite, through her Roman captivity and marriage and eventual happy return to Britain with her Roman family. Through Illid's talk of his experiences at the supper before Jesus' ascension, the young princess has her first taste of Christianity. The later events- invasion, captivity, the long hard journey to Rome, Gwladys' happy marriage to the Roman captain Pudens, also Christian, intermittent meetings with Joseph of Aramathea (the author's theory is that he did go to England) and Illid, Emperor Claudius' death and the succession of Nero, the trial and release of Paul of Tarsus- see Gwladys through her next twenty years of life. A novel that is a fair picture of the times but more at the level of statement than imaginative interpretation. Gladys Malvern's *Tamar* is emotionally far superior. Decorations are by Kreigl Collins. (9/19)

Willis, Priscilla D. Longmans Green
ALFRED AND THE SAINT $2.50

A young mute and a horse with a heart condition lend unusual substance to a sensitively written story of a Pennsylvania Hunt club. Son of the club's manager, fourteen-year-old Alfred can listen to others but must use a sign language to make himself understood. His love for horses and in particular, the beautiful chestnut hunter, The Saint, flowers when he persuades his father to let him nurse the horse back to health after the animal's sudden attack during a run- nearly fatal to both mount and rider. Gradually more vigorous training and reconditioning, the winning of a show that enables Alfred to pay for an operation on his vocal chords, perceptive characterizations of typically Pennsylvanian horse people- all read off with up-to-the-fence-and-over excitement. Considerable stature as a zestful, image conscious writer, has helped the author execute her theme with the force and pathos that is its due. (9/17)

Andler, Kenneth Pellegrini & Cudahy
THE STOLEN SPRUCE $2.50

Maine Woods background a disputed timber plot mystery that is levelled at first year highschool readers but so simply written that eleven year olds will tackle it with ease. Threatened with the loss of their farm, fourteen year old Tom Weldon and his mother find that establishing their rightful ownership of some valuable spruce land, which the renegade lumberjack Baptiste Lavigne has claimed as his, will be the only way to keep them in their beloved Maine. Old timer surveyor Angus McNabb comes to the rescue, and with the help of Tom and his friend Mark, Baptiste and cronies are caught in a few weeks bout of woodcraft and detecting that climaxes in a rough and tumble campsite fight. The strength of C. L. Hartman's bold black drawings lends a needed depth to this story. (7/28)

Lindgren, Astrid Viking
BILL BERGSON, MASTER DETECTIVE $2.00

Comically styled young sleuthings translated from the Swedish and set in a small town in Sweden. At the beginning of summer Bill and his two friends, Anders Bengsstrom and Eva Lotta Linders- an activity eager trio ready to pounce on suspense at the drop of a hat- encounter a new element in their lives in the person of mysterious Uncle Einar, itinerant cousin to Mrs. Lisander. Bill's suspicions are aroused at such activities of Uncle Einar's as writing to people in care of the General Delivery in Stockholm, his lock picking in the basement of some old castle ruins in their town. At the end of the summer, the course of which is further highlighted by a home made circus performance, and a crook catching rivalry with three contemporaries, Bill, Anders and Eva Lotta are heroes in a speedy automobile chase that lands Einar, two pals and some stolen jewels. Pleasant thrills. Illustrated by Louis Glanzman. (9/19)

Rietveld, Jane Viking
GREAT LAKES SAILOR $2.00

A simple, uncomplicated period story of mid-nineteenth century life on the Great Lakes and a Milwaukee boy's ambition to be a sailor. Young Tom Corbin persuades his carpenter father to let him ship aboard the three masted *Sea Gull* on one of its

summer runs to Buffalo. On the journey he has some mild adventures with Pottowatomie Indians, grows a bit older through knowing his shipmates. Too, he has the opportunity to contrast sailing ships with the new fangled steamers when the *Sea Gull* stays in Buffalo and Tom comes home on the *Silver Spray*. Sailing ships are preferable because they make a man feel more at one with the wind and waves. With Tom just twelve but already thinking about life work, this should suit both the eight to elevens and the twelve to fifteens. Illustrated by the author. (9/19)
12

Robertson, Keith — Viking

THE MYSTERY OF BURNT HILL — $2.50

Master story teller Robertson (his latest- *The Lonesome Sorrel*) weaves a mystery with a different twist in his characteristically easy, smooth-flowing narrative style. Antiques and rare books come unexpectedly into the life of Neil Carson, just out of his first year of highschool, and landed with an American History theme to write during the summer because of low grades in the subject. On a fishing trip in their New Jersey countryside, he and his friend Swede Larsen, come across an old lady Miss Clara Hankin of Burnt Hill whose ancestors and run-down house date back to revolutionary days. She offers them an old desk that belonged to her Uncle Rufus, a smuggler, and in the process of getting it refinished by an excellent but too crafty cabinet maker back in town, some rare books are found, stolen and recovered in a wild goosechase that results in the renovation of Miss Clara's estate and a good history theme for Neil. The most important book is a gift copy of Benjamin Franklin's *Almanack* from its author to his friend George Washington. The scholarly angle to rough and tumble boy adventures make this a treat. Illustrated by Rafaelo Busoni. (9/19)
12

Severn, David — Viking

DREAM GOLD — $2.50

Full blown British mystery and ghostly adventure by one of its ablest exponents. The story, written in the first person, has its fourteen year old hero, Peter Manning, make a strange visit to the Cornish sea coast estate of a morose and secretive orphaned school chum, Guy Trelawney, for whom he has a strange attraction. The mystery of which even Guy himself is uncertain, deepens when the two boys have simultaneous dreams about escaping from a tropical island. The ship that must rescue them is the *Bold Venture* which lies, a three hundred year old wreck, at the foot of the Trelawney mansion. A family curse on a treasure of gold which presumably lies with the *Bold Venture*, sets Guy unsuccessfully after Peter's blood when the discovery of a distant kinship between them reveals the necessity for one or the other to be the last in line. The glooms and horrors of the Cornwall coast are exploited to advantage in a well knit tale. Drawings by Isami Kashiwagi are emotional and windswept. (9/19)
12

Weil, Ann — Viking

RED SAILS TO CAPRI — $2.50

* The discovery of Capri's Blue Grotto stars in a high spirited novel of a boy, a fisherman and three foreigners who visited the island in 1862. A French writer, Jaques Tersonnier, an English painter, Lord Derby, and a Norwegian philosopher, Erik Nordstrom, land on Capri during the off season- in search respectively of excitement, beauty and "truth" and stay at the inn of young Michele Pagano's father. They are champing at the bit for adventure. It soon begins when Michele takes Jaques for a sail and refuses to talk about a mysterious cove, the waters of which they must skirt. Even Signor Pagano, himself a mere fledgling Capri resident of but fifteen years standing, is reluctant to discuss matters, the mere mention of which would frighten townspeople and undermine his still shaky social position. Foreign ingenuity and desire for knowledge win out and with the help of Michele and old fisherman Angelo, the wonderful grotto is explored. A very snappy dialogue at an almost fever pitch of excitement pulls the reader right along, makes him gasp with awe at the first glimpse of the flickering blue lights. Wonderful, colorful and a good picture of life on Capri. Illustrated by C. B. Falls. (9/19)
12

Cooper, Page — World

PAT'S HARMONY — $2.50

*A love of a book for horse lovers is the fictionalization of the life of the renowned show winning horse and rider team of three years ago- young Patricia Lee and the hunter, Harmony. The story version has Pat growing up on a ranch, and from the time she was thirteen, caring for what at first was a very unpromising, scrawny colt and raising him to be the magnificent working hunter that he was. All the elements of a good horse story, training trials, accidents, horse courage when Harmony kills a wolf, worries as to whether or not to sell the hunter for some badly needed family funds- are part of the account that takes Pat and Harmony through their first big successes. Oliver Grimley's line drawings lack grace and volume but are enough like Paul Brown's work to be satisfying. (8/11)

TWELVE TO FIFTEEN- NON-FICTION

Galt, Tom — Crowell

THE STORY OF PEACE AND WAR — $2.75 ✓

* This deserves a star for organization alone if not all of its other attractions as well. For the story of peace and war is the story of man, and even some beasts, ever since he started to live with his fellow, and as a simplified history of world politics this is remarkably good. Galt, who has written before in this vein, (*How the United Nations Works* - 1947) starts with wars between ape gangs. Then, to keep the peace between tribes of cave men, chieftancies were formed. Later the Achaean League in Greece functioned, as did the Iroquois Nations under Hiawatha, as a kind of United States. And so on down through time, through the middle ages and the beginnings of modern European history to the assistance and peace making functions of the League of Nations and the United Nations, there is a beautifully telescoped view of political activity. Well chosen examples of wars and their settlements are set against descriptions of the work of such men as Pierre duBois, Emeric Cruce, Grotius, Rousseau. Country to country and epoch to epoch comparisons provide further grounding, and there are eight detailed chapters devoted to the good work and the failures of the League and the U.N. A "plain talk" style and short paragraphs makes this readable, entirely lacking in a rosy specs outlook. We haven't seen the illustrations (by Eric Blegvad) yet but we hope they'll bring out the full possibilities of the book. (9/?) 5

FICTION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Craig, Margaret Maze — Crowell

JULIE — $2.50 ✓

Trish in 1950 introduced Margaret Craig as a "comer" in the field of young adult romance at the late teen level, with a book that seemed successfully to speak the language of youth in recognizable terms. But somehow *Julie* reads like more of the same, even to locale (again a small college) - love problem (again a girl whose roommate gets all the beaux and who yearns for a boy friend all her own but hesitates to accept one who isn't hero stature). The talk fests - the incidents- all ring true enough, but at surface level, and might have happened anywhere, so far as the more substantial reason for being at college is concerned. Do they ever go to classes? The superficiality of story content is offset to some extent by a certain quality in the writing, by the introduction of some of the problems young people are up against (Julie's roommate comes from a broken home and her avid collecting of admirers is a forlorn search for the affection of which she has been robbed). But when you contrast this with Ruth Adams Knight's *Day After Tomorrow* and the adult handling of challenging issues, *Julie* seems pretty synthetic, with a slight touch of cynicism in the approach to youth. (9/?)
5

Jackson, C. Paul — Crowell

DUB HALFBACK — $2.50

Small college football and antics of a nineteen year old, "Dub" Brown, Delbert Ulysses Brown, grace the pages of a trustworthy Jackson item for the fall circuit. Dominated by the theory that football is fun and not all agonized playing under pressure to win, the story treats of Dub, a junior at Weldon College, and of Kip Allen, his freshman roommate who went through highschool as a football glamour boy and emerged with bitter memories. Dub persuades Kip to play for Weldon. After a few accidents, lots of ball talk and tackle, after Dub himself recovers a few fumbles, they win some games and prove that real fun can be had on the field. Jackson's gentle slang slinging, the wealth of college boy and sharp talk, lend a certain dry humor to the story- despite the periodical descent to corn. Reliable stuff. (9/17)

Knight, Ruth Adams — Doubleday

DAY AFTER TOMORROW — $2.50

* Communist youth in New York and a near tragic involvement of a sixteen year old boy find lucid presentation in a novel that shows more cold, clear realism than bias. After plant trouble in Planesville, Indiana, young Tom Briggs' father is offered a better job as a foreman in one of his company's New York shops. Mr. Cory, the New York boss, even goes so far as to rent the Briggs an apartment before their arrival. A rather lonely Tom starts in at highschool but after a successful speech made in an assembly for one of his English assignments, he is noticed by two classmates who happen to live in the same apartment building- school big-shot Ludi Lucano and a French immigrant girl, Karen. Ludi asks Tom to join his "club". Then Karen, already emotionally involved with Ludi, but unhappily so on account of her own anti-communist sympathies, becomes Tom's rather evasive girl friend. At the club, Tom's first hazy observations of meetings about "workers rights" and "social injustices" sets off a tight chain of events that soon has him intensively involved in enthusiastic aid to what he most believes- an equal chance for all, support of the wonderful "club" that some mysterious person is sponsoring for the boys. Then confusions start. Tom is not sure why he must act secretly. Mr. Briggs, worried about further "Red" uprisings at the new plant, tells Mr. Cory of sabotage, but is used as a bumper by both Cory and the Reds and is fired. The upshot comes at a rally deliberately planned to evoke a sympathy-creating police raid. Tom finds he cannot fight where a decent explantion would avoid violence, and that the mystery behind the club is Mr. Cory himself. With much of the damage already done, Tom discovers his communism strangely like what he believed were the evils of capitalism, and he and Karen have yet a new world to make. Successful handling of immediate issues rarely approached in young people's books by an author who proved in her earlier *It Might Be You* (published in 1949) that she feels youth is the period when such problems must be faced. Definitive and dramatic. (9/18)

McLelland, Isabel — Henry Holt

HI! TEACHER — $2.50

The frustrations and happiness in the work and romance of a girl in her twenties nicely outlined in the story of Alison Gray's first year as a schoolmarm in a very small mid-western town- Cow Creek. Fresh out of college, trembling but brave Alison arrives in a world peopled by an Italian river boat captain, Vic Taranto, and his Irish wife Molly, the mysterious half Scotch-half Indian McKay family, the thirteen children she must teach and their too strong memories of last year's teacher, and Bill Jeffrey, three years younger than herself but fully able to capture her heart. Alison's determination to be firm yet sincere, her accomplishments with three "difficult" pupils, her rewarding friendships with Bill and the Tarantos, are charged with the excitement of a nearly disastrous forest fire. A warming story for any girl starting on a career of her own. Suggestive schoolroom and country still life drawings by Mary Stevens make attractive chapter headings. (9/?)

Wyndham, Lee — Longmans, Green
SLIPPER UNDER GLASS — $2.50

Ballet in New Jersey makes lively substance for a light career story about local talent, its restlessness in the home roost, its first leap into the world of recognition. Young Maggie Jones, hindered in her desire to be a dancer by the reactions of her skeptical family and schoolmates, has been studying for several years in the school of a retired ballerina, Svetlana. For an important benefit concert, the school imports a handsome *premier danseur* from New York and has a portentous visit from a famous choreographer, Kucharov. Whipped up by Svetlana's caustic criticism, the seeming arrogance of the *premier danseur*, Kucharov's potential offers, Maggie and her friend Gabrielle dance their best, are respectively presented with opportunities to go to Hollywood and New York. Line drawings by Vera Bock, suggestive of the *style nouveau* - are apt exaggerations of ballet movements, moods and expressions. (9/24)

McIlvaine, Jane S. — Macrae-Smith
THE SEA SPRITE — $2.50

Slick writing, and questionable standards of value characterize a thoroughly readable young romance about an ambassador's daughter in an eastern seaside resort. Fully matured Callie Pritchard returns to Pritchard's Point with her handsome parents, after five years of European boarding-schools. Anxious to find her own level with the local young crowd, Callie takes sailing lessons from the yacht club's handsomest, Charlie Thorndike, ropes him in successfully and ultimately wins his honest devotion at her end-of-the-season debut. Callie's courage in a racing accident; the near loss of Charlie's respect and that of the whole yacht club over some foul seamanship, which turns out to be the fault of another; her share in straightening out the psychological problems of the boy responsible-all provide sidelights for a holiday glamor tale, with full quota of glitter, tanned legs, date baiting. (9/?)

NON-FICTION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Lemmon, Robert S. — Doubleday with
OUR AMAZING BIRDS — American Garden Guild- $3.95

Imagination in expression and selection of facts makes good reading out of a miscellany of information on some 102 birds. The majority are found somewhere on our continent; a few are almost extinct- the whooping crane; others are common to many areas- the catbird, the junco, and the way they are introduced as to habitat, nesting and other characteristics, gives them all a lively individuality. Black and white wash drawings by Don Eckleberry. (For full report see p. 396) (9/4)

Ommanney, F. D. — Harcourt, Brace
THE SHOALS OF CAPRICORN — $4.00

An expedition to the Sechelles Islands to explore the possibilities of quantity commercial fisheries in the Indian Ocean, is fertile ground for the zoologist and adventurer author's descriptions of the creatures of the deep, the abundance of the land,and to a greater extent, the social life of the island natives- their wealth and values, contrast with Europeans etc. This hits at the fringe of the Carson and Hayerdahl markets. (For full report see p. 393.) (8/7)

de la Torre, Lillian — Knopf
THE HEIR OF DOUGLAS — $4.00

* A vivacious reconstruction of an historical 18th century imponderable which aroused a furor of debate in its day, and for the future left its wake of doubt and denial. For this is the story of Lady Jane Douglas, her marriage in middle age to the opportunist Col. Steuart, and her brace of boy babies- Sholto who died, and Archie who became the contender for the title and estate of the wealthy Duke of Douglas, Lady Jane's

brother. Lady Jane died in miserable circumstances of poverty and mistrust of the Duke, whose death in turn was followed by years of heated investigation and litigation. Recurrent trials made hot controversy and the verdict has a new interpretation here. (Full report on p. 359) (8/18)

Stanwell-Fletcher, Theodora — Little, Brown-A.M.P.
THE TUNDRA WORLD — $3.50

A college girl's summer devoted to arctic natural history is a bright-eyed report of the world around Churchill, the northernmost Canadian point on the west coast of Hudson's Bay. She explores the teeming tundra, hunts plants and birds with a camera, goes on unscheduled trips and expeditions, contrasts Horace, back home in Boston, with the man she meets in this big new world, discovers what a vast change the subarctic is from her protected, conventional home life. The naivete to the italicized style makes the reader too, find the tundra "awfully thrilling". (Full report on p. 359) (8/14)

Sadler, William S. — Macmillan
COURTSHIP AND LOVE — $3.50

To those who face the problem of choosing a mate, the guidance here is for the average person who wants his psychology on the practical level, and for young people in love, particularly those who haven't had the benefit of adequate courses in marriage relationships. There is forthrightness in the discussion of such questions as birth control, petting, eugenics, etc. There are questionnaires for personal evaluations of the various problems. Not a handling of deep seated disorders, but a safe and sane counsel. (Full report on p. 399) (9/?)

Stump, Al J. — Macrae-Smith
CHAMPIONS AGAINST ODDS — $2.95

A number of rather melodramatically presented sketches of such colorfuls of the sports world as Eddie Arcaro, Sam Snead, Mel Ott, etc. Twenty in all, the profiles run the gamut of sports from diving (Vickie Draves) to discus throwing (Bob Mathias) and the roster of athletes from the big timers (Bobby Jones) to the not so exalted (Bob Richards). Carried along by Mr. Stump's admiration for his subjects, we learn of Arcaro's young days as a stable-mad truant, live through tense moments on the putting green with Snead. The author's selection has breadth and a good sense of contrast, and his skill with the necessary on-the-scene material makes for some exciting reading. (8/?)

Larsen, Egon — Roy
MEN WHO CHANGED THE WORLD — $3.00

Biographies of twelve scientists, all of whom functioned within the last hundred years, written with a feeling for the personalities they depict and a lively awareness of the inventions of their heroes. Bell the telephoner; Edison; wireless man Marconi; Rutherford, the New Zealand born atom-smasher; Watson-Watt of radar, get enthusiastic reports from Larsen who, as he states in his preface, has always been fascinated by the history of scientific inventions as well as intrigued by the miraculous process of the inventive mind. William Friese-Greene, a worker in preliminary cinematography is a case in point of the biographer's analytical method. Greene's lack sustained concentration leading to repeated personal failures and temporarily unrecognized achievements, is well illustrated in the account. Photographs of the men and their inventions complete a useful book. (Publ.)

Abetti, Giorgio — Henry Schuman
THE HISTORY OF ASTRONOMY — $4.00

Scholarly and a good addition to Schuman's *Life of Science Library* this takes the reader on the expected road of astral discoveries from primeval times to the astrophysics of the twentieth century. After introductory material on how astronomy happened to get started, its connection with religion and so forth, there are chapters on Greek and non-Greek astronomers, the Alexandrians, the mediaeval scientists and their incomplete work that created the atmosphere of uncertainty which heralded Galileo, Kepler and Newton. Descriptions of the work of these men precedes chapters on Bessel and Struve and present day astronomers. Good spot research material. (For full report see p. 398) (9/11)

Cummings, Patricia & Jones, William B. — Simon & Schuster
NEW YORK ON A MODEST INCOME — $2.50

* For anyone's months in New York, this is a companionable book with enough of the right information to be a big help and not too much to be befuddling. The bedless incipient New Yorker is first provided with lists of residence houses. Then there is specific information on areas with reasonable apartments, leasing etc. Information about job hunting in various fields, furnishing the apartment, entertainment, summer and winter, concerts and off-Broadway plays, restaurants- prices and nationalities of, legal advice, clothing bargains, abounds and abounds. And with each suggestion given there is name, address and telephone number to go along with it, as well as how to get there- yes, subways and bus lines are explained too. Here's your stuff if your're coming to N. Y. (Full report on p. 400) (9/?)

Gorsline, Robert — Viking
WHAT PEOPLE WORE — $7.50

Not detailed enough in either drawings or text for the more serious scholars, this nevertheless encompasses much material hitherto available only in a series of elaborate and expensive volumes. Subtitled *A Visual History of Dress from Ancient Times to 20th Century America*, the volume includes 1800 line drawings and 12 color plates- promises to be a goldmine of ready research material for play producers, writers, students of a period. An excellent library acquisition. (9/5) (For full report see p.396)

PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Books For Better Living Publ. — Grosset & Dunlap ea. $1.50

From the previously reported list we recommend- CHILDREN'S PARTIES by Annette S. Gabriel, and DECORATING FOR JOYFUL OCCASIONS by Marjorie W. Young. (Full reports on p. 363)

Kelley & Rasey — Harper
EDUCATION AND THE SCIENCE OF MAN — $3.00

A mid-century summary of the present facts "about the nature of the human organism as applicable to teaching and learning,"- of which the first part deals with the nature of man, the second with the teaching of the human being, while the third consists of a list of sources for previous information. On the whole an exposition of present concepts and hypotheses- assuredly worth consideration. (Full report on p. 360) (8/20)

Witmer, Helen Leland & Kotinsky, Ruth — Harper $4.50

PERSONALITY IN THE MAKING

* *The Fact-finding Report of the Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth-* written with regard to the present knowledge of growth patterns of a healthy personality and of elements in the home and in American culture which tend to aid or hinder growth. In the first section physical limitations, parent-child relations, income level, health prejudice, discrimination, and religion are discussed. Then these findings are considered under the heading, "Implications for the Conduct of Social Institutions,"- family; church; school; leisure-time; vocational, health, social, law-enforcement services. With orientation towards the psychological welfare of the child and maximum consideration of physical elements, this is a question raising, forward-looking book. (For full report, see p. 395) (9/3)

Graham, Lillian S. & Wackerbarth, Marjorie — Prentice-Hall $2.95

PARTY FUN FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

A survey from tot-hood to teen-hood which, in spite of a preponderance of cliches and not a few la-de-daisms, embodies a roster of pretty sound ideas for almost any occasion you can think of. Stressing the importance of parties and what they mean for "small fry" the authors start off with accounts of specific parties for the youngest age group- three to six- present the variety of short games needed to keep this age on the go. Keeping to descriptions of actual parties as they do throughout the book, the authors move on to parties for boys- rough but not too rough games, a kite party, a carpenter party; for girls- a puppet party, a dog party, a blue jeans party; for boys and girls at that tricky first dance stage- ice-breaker activities, a beach picnic, even a Roman dinner; for special days- dozens of ideas for Thanksgiving, Halloween, St. Patrick's Day,etc.; and lastly for everyday fun- how to rig up a back yard gym if you live in the city, how to keep ten-year-olds happy during a vacation by car. This has all been written down in a style meant to coax the hesitant parent, with chapters prone to start as does the first, in this way: "Will your "So Big" be three years old his next birthday? What fun to give him his first birthday party!" We object to the patronizing tone but the great number of ideas, presented as being carried out in a natural setting is not to be overlooked. (8/11)

Hirsh, Joseph — Henry Schuman $2.50

ALCOHOL EDUCATION

A guide book intended for professional educators, teachers, and community leaders as an incentive for further study and the teaching of alcohol education in high schools. Virtually an outline of what should be taught to potential drinkers; the historical aspects of alcohol; its action and effect upon the physical and nervous system; alcoholism and its allied problems; the planning, methodology, presentation and content of a course in the subject. (For full report, see p. 399) (9/?)